tic rubber have been allowed to meet the gap between demand and indigenous production as detailed below:—

(Qty. in tonnes)

Year	Production	Consumption	Shortfall	Imports
Natural Rubber				
1982-83	165850	195545	30000	31659
1983-84	175280	209480	34000	32175
1984-85	186450	217510	31000	32408
Synthetic Rubber				
1982-83	30290	55250	25000	24550
1983-84	32270	62300	30000	30000
1984-85	37669	65400	28000	24000

(e) Representations both for and against such imports have been received.

Assistance to exporters

*140. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state what assistance is given to the exporters in the matter of export promotion, formation of Export Promotion Councils, associations of members with the management through the democratic processes and for the efficient working of such Councils?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): In order to promote exports, Government provides assistance, common to all export products, under various schemes as listed below:—

(1) *Cash Compensatory Support*: Cash Compensatory support is provided to compensate the Indian exporters for various disadvantages which are inherent in our present stage of economic development.

(2) *Duty Drawback System*: Under the Duty Drawback Scheme, exporters are allowed reimbursement of customs and central excise duties paid on materials, comprising raw materials, components and packing materials used in the manufacture and packing of export products.

(3) *Import Replenishment Scheme*: Under this Scheme, Import licenes are granted for replenishment of imported materials required in the manufacture of exported products.

(4) *Advance Import Licence Scheme*: Under this Scheme, the exporters are eligible to obtain advance licences for their requirements of imported raw materials.

(5) *Duty Exemption Scheme*: Under this Scheme, duty free import of specified raw materials/components required for manufacture of export products is allowed for execution of specific export orders.

(6) *Import Export Pass Book Scheme*: Under this Scheme, manufacturer-exporters can obtain their requirements to import raw materials without having to apply repeatedly for advance/imprest and R.E.P. licences.

(7) *Export Houses and Trading Houses Scheme*: Under this scheme, exporters can get themselves recognised as Export Houses/Trading

Houses. They are then eligible for a number of import facilities in the form of REP licences and additional licences etc.

(8) *Interest Subsidy Scheme*: Pre-shipment/Post shipment credit is allowed to exporters by the Banks at a subsidised rate of interest under this scheme.

(9) *MDA grant-in-aid for export effort*: Market Development Assistance is provided for meeting expenditure on Cash Compensatory Support, Grants-in-aid to Export Promotion Councils and for schemes and projects for the development of markets abroad and for disbursement of interest subsidy.

(10) *Export Credit Insurance*: The facility of export credit insurance is provided to exporters by the Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Limited.

(11) *Free Trade Zones*: Free Trade Zones have been established at Kandla (KAFTZ) and Santa Cruz (SEEPZ) to promote exports. New Zones at Madras, Cochin, NOIDA (UP) and Falta (West Bengal) are also being set up.

(12) 100 *per cent Export Oriented Unit Scheme*: This scheme provides for setting up of 100 per cent Export Oriented Units which will offer for exports their entire production excluding pemitted level of rejects.

2. Export Promotion Councils are given grant-in-aid from Market Development Assistance fund. These Councils are autonomous organisations registered under the Companies Act/Societies Act, as non-profit making bodies. In the formation of such Councils, necessary assistance is provided by the Government. The day-to-day affairs of these Councils are carried on by a Managing/Administrative Committee of the Councils, in which are represented exporter members, elected by the Council.

3. Government officials are nominated on the Export Promotion Councils and there is constant dialogue between the Export Promotion Councils and the concerned senior officers in the Commerce Ministry, which help in the efficient working and management of the Councils. At the time of finalising the Annual Budgets of the Councils, a detailed discussion takes place and action is initiated on any improvement to be brought about in the functioning of the Councils.

Apparel Export Promotion Council

890. SHRI GULAM MOHI-UD-DIN SHAWL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Apparel Export Promotion Council has been receiving DMA grant for overseas export promotions, foreign exhibition, etc. and if so, when the assistance was sanctioned for the first time and the date since when the assistance was stopped;

(b) whether any post was created or scale of pay fixed by the AEPC during the above period; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The first MDA Grant was sanctioned to the Council on 16-11-82. Since 1-4-85 MDA Grant to the Council has been stopped.

(b) and (c) No post has been created by the Council out of MDA Grant.

Apparel Export Promotion Council

891. SHRI GULAM MOHI-UD-DIN SHAWL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred question 223 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 19th November, 1985 and furnish a copy or copies of Government instructions